

1 casting the circle. Basically, it's visualizing
2 a blue-tinted circle of protection, sphere of
3 protection, that completely surrounds the group
4 and the people. You proceed back to the altar,
5 and you start your invocation which you'd be
6 requesting the presence of the guardians of the
7 watchtowers for each of the four cardinal
8 directions to protect the circle from outside
9 interference during the ceremony, request the
10 presence of the god and goddess to lend power and
11 thereby their approval to whatever ceremony
12 you're practicing.

13 On an Espat, which is performed on the
14 full moon at noon, we'll do a ritual called
15 drawing down of the moon whereby the high priest
16 or high priestess, if there's one available,
17 basically takes the persona of the goddess and,
18 for lack of a better words, grants protection to
19 the coven for the upcoming ritual, magic,
20 whatever is to be performed.

21 On the Sabbats, it would move to a
22 short demonstration, playlet, if you will, of

1 what's -- I referenced the Yule religion earlier
2 where the god is re-formed. Some type of ritual
3 playlet will be performed that would demonstrate
4 the rebirth. The lighting of the god's candle
5 would be one way it could be done.

6 Q This is performed by the members of the coven on
7 the Espat?

8 A Sabbats, usually. Espats are more working
9 religious meetings, magic being a big part of the
10 working religion. Let's say, for instance, my
11 friend was going in for cancer surgery. We would
12 do kind of like a healing spell, building up of
13 energy, positive energy, trying to send it to
14 him, lend him the strength to get through the
15 cancer treatment or whatever.

16 Q This is what ceremony?

17 A That would be the Espats. Those are performed on
18 the full moon, new moon, and moon quarters
19 depending on what type of magic you want to
20 perform.

21 Q How often do you have the Espats in a year?

22 A Full moon, new moon, so we're talking 13 full

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1 moons a year, so there would be 13 new moons a
2 year, 26 times a year, roughly. Not all covens
3 perform Espats on all the full, the new, and the
4 quarters. Some just do full moons, some just do
5 new moons. It's pretty much up to the individual
6 practitioners on what they want to do.

7 Q So it's pretty much half the year? You say 26
8 times a year --

9 A Correct.

10 Q -- you would have these, so every other week,
11 basically?

12 A Roughly, yeah, about every two weeks, yes.

13 Q The Sabbats take place four times?

14 A Eight times a year.

15 Q Do they ever overlap?

16 A Yes.

17 Q What happens when they overlap?

18 A Sabbat takes precedence over Espat.

19 Q Whenever you don't have an Espat or a Sabbat, you
20 have a regular ceremony?

21 A Educational.

22 Q Which you just described to me?

1 A Right, educational ceremony.

2 Q Now, the Espat, we talked about spells?

3 A Correct.

4 Q Is that part of the Espat, using a spell for some

5 purpose?

6 A Yes. During a Sabbat celebration, there's no,

7 quote, unquote, magic performed. It's revelry,

8 celebration. You're celebrating the life of the

9 god and goddess, whereas, the Espats are, like I

10 said, more working religious programs. This is

11 where you do, you know, healing spells or

12 protective spells.

13 Q Would someone say I have a friend who has cancer

14 and is going in for surgery tomorrow, I want the

15 group to do a spell?

16 A Yes, I'd like to do a healing spell or an energy-

17 raising spell to try and carry him through

18 whatever treatment he's going through.

19 Q Would there always be someone that wants to do a

20 spell during an Espat?

21 A No, not always.

22 Q Sometimes there will be nobody has a desire to do

1 a spell?

2 A Correct.

3 Q But most often, there is a spell done?

4 A Correct. If there's nobody in the coven in
5 particular that has a particular need for any
6 type of spell, the coven would build and generate
7 the energy within the circle, and generally it's
8 released just back into the earth as our showing
9 respect for mother earth.

10 Q What kind of spells are possible to be performed
11 during Espat?

12 A The list goes on forever. The most common are
13 healing, for love, for protection. I'd say those
14 are the three most common ones.

15 Q You say I want you to protect my friend so and
16 so?

17 A My friend Jane is a neighbor that's been
18 harassed, I would say. We'll send a positive
19 circle of energy to surround Jane in an effort to
20 protect her from whoever the person is that's
21 bothering her.

22 Q Now, do the spells require any kind of chanting?

1 A Chanting is an energy-raising technique that's
2 used during almost every practice by every
3 practicing coven out on the streets. Like I
4 said, it's a means of generating energy. It is
5 shocking to a lot of non-Wiccans, and I have
6 learned that it's easier to basically be the
7 battery that provides the power to any religious
8 working. It's not quite as strong, but it's
9 effective in its own way.

10 Q Do the chants vary with the spell that's been
11 chosen?

12 A I'd say they vary more by coven that's using it.
13 The chants are usually rhyming, repetitive verse
14 that you repeat faster and faster and faster as
15 you're building the energy for the spell, and it
16 could be as simple as, you know, whatever god or
17 goddess you're praying to. Cerrneunus,
18 Cerrneunus, give us strength. Cerrneunus,
19 Cerrneunus, give us strength. We just keep
20 repeating that on a faster and faster tempo until
21 you feel that the maximum amount of energy by the
22 group has been raised, and that it's directed to

1 whatever the recipient is.

2 Q Now, do you ever do negative spells?

3 A The Wiccans have a primary tenet that they
4 believe is called the Rule of Three. Whatever I
5 do, positive or negative, is going to come back
6 to me three-fold, so no Wiccan would knowingly
7 generate that kind of negative energy. If Mr. X
8 is being bothered by Mr. Y, you don't have to do
9 something against Mr. Y to get him to stop
10 bothering Mr. X. You do something for Mr. X to
11 protect him.

12 Every situation -- I like to liken
13 magic to a hammer. You can take a hammer and you
14 can build a house, or you can take that same
15 hammer and destroy the house. Magic's a tool to
16 be used by the practitioner, and if you're
17 intending to do a positive magic spell, that's
18 what you do.

19 Q So do you recall using any negative spells during
20 your meetings at the Treatment Center?

21 A No.

22 Q You mentioned a Yule. What is a Yule?

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1 A Yule would be the eighth Sabbat of the year.
2 It's when the god in our religion is born.
3 Q That would be the god of Cerrneunus?
4 A Cerrneunus.
5 Q Is that the god?
6 A That would be one, yes.
7 Q If you're having a normal meeting without a
8 Sabbat or an Espat, but you feel the need to do a
9 prayer for someone, is that possible?
10 A Oh, absolutely, absolutely.
11 Q So the spells aren't always just reserved for the
12 Espats?
13 A The Espats are on the moon cycle, and during
14 various phases of the moon, different forms of
15 magic are thought to be more potent, so if
16 possible, you want to do a spell on a particular
17 moon cycle, but it's not mandatory. If you have,
18 you know, your friend just broke their leg or
19 something and you wanted to do a healing spell
20 and send some energy to this person immediately,
21 that's still possible to do it, but that in
22 theory wouldn't be as potent or as effective as

1 if you waited until the new moon to do it.
2 Q How do you end the service, the ceremony, the
3 normal ceremonies?
4 A The normal ceremonies would be thank the god and
5 the goddess and the guardians of the four
6 elements, the four cardinal directions for their
7 presence and protection during the ceremony. The
8 guardians of the watchtowers you would thank and
9 send back from where they came. The god and
10 goddess, you would more or less thank and do as
11 will, stay or go as you will.
12 Q Now, do you read from the Book of Shadows while
13 you're also doing your services?
14 A A person's Book of Shadows is -- the Book of
15 Shadows is a blank book that you buy or assemble,
16 and in it, you write down rituals, ceremonies
17 that you've run into in the past or that you've
18 modified for something you've done in the past,
19 and the Book of Shadows would be on the elder
20 during a Sabbat or Espat celebration, and you do
21 whatever working out of the book that you chose
22 to do.

1 Q Does each person, each adherent to the Wiccans,
2 bring their own Book of Shadows to the service?

3 A Generally, yes.

4 Q Each one works from their own Book of Shadows,
5 not from someone else's?

6 A In a normal situation in the Gardner coven, there
7 was a coven Book of Shadows that listed
8 everything we did for all eight Sabbats and every
9 conceivable permutation for Espan celebrations.

10 Anybody that came new to the coven that was
11 wanting to practice would copy out of the coven's
12 Book of Shadows the appropriate Sabbath or Espan
13 celebrations that they felt were appropriate to
14 them, and then expand their Book of Shadows from
15 that point, so it's generally -- it's general
16 practice for a new covener to copy the coven's
17 Book of Shadows into their own, and then he can
18 expand on their Book of Shadows from there. The
19 Book of Shadows can go to umpteen dozen volumes
20 depending on how long you've been a practicing
21 Wiccan.

22 Q How many volumes do you have in your Book of

1 Shadows?

2 A The Book of Shadows I'm allowed to have in here I
3 created more as a teaching tool than anything
4 else. I've listed very basic ceremonies and
5 rituals, and I allow other coveners here -- I use
6 my personal Book of Shadows as a coven Book of
7 Shadows. My Books of Shadows on the streets are
8 something that's very private and personal to me,
9 and I don't give you my Books of Shadows to read.

10 Q But here in this group, you do allow them to --

11 A In this group, I've used my personal Book of
12 Shadows or the Book of Shadows that I'm using
13 right now, I use it as a teaching tool and the
14 coven book, yes.

15 Q This is a one-volume book or multi volumes?

16 A This is just a single volume. That's all I'm
17 allowed, so I kept it to one volume.

18 Q Is there any dancing or movement during the
19 various ceremonies, either the Espat or the
20 Sabbat?

21 A Dancing and chanting is frequently used as an
22 energy-raising technique, and the movement inside

1 the circle is common during the what I referred
2 to as the playlets that you perform during the
3 Sabbat celebrations.

4 Q The playlets act out a scene; is that what that
5 is?

6 A During the Yule celebration it is convenient, and
7 we've been using it. The new god is born, so
8 there would be the holding up of the god candle
9 and thanking the goddess for bringing the god
10 back to us in the coming year, and ceremonial
11 lighting of the god candle from the working
12 candle.

13 Q What role do the tarot cards play?

14 A Tarot cards are a form of divination that are
15 commonly used by Wiccan practitioners. There's
16 many other forms of divination, just tarot seems
17 to be the most commonly used method.

18 Q What do you mean divination?

19 A Predicting the future, for want of a better word.

20 Q So how would the tarot cards be used during the
21 Wiccan ceremonies?

22 A Tarot cards are more commonly a personal tool as

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1 opposed to a group tool. There is a group tarot
2 deck that's more of a training tool. Tarot cards
3 are also something that's very personal to the
4 practitioner. You build up your own personal
5 energy in the cards, and by letting someone else
6 handle the cards, letting somebody else go over
7 the cards, it basically destroys the energy you
8 put into them and starts infusing the other
9 person's energy in the deck, so there's a coven
10 deck, and that's for Wiccans here which is a
11 teaching deck.

12 Q Do you have your own tarot card deck yourself?

13 A No, I don't.

14 Q Why is that?

15 A Because my property never came down from Gardner
16 when I moved here, and I haven't been able to
17 afford the cost of a new deck.

18 Q What do the decks cost?

19 A Usually right around 20 to \$25.00. I believe
20 there is a new, approved playing card-size deck
21 available from the canteen corporation, but I
22 have not had a chance to see that yet.

1 Q Do you maintain a necklace or a medallion?
2 A Yes, I do.
3 Q What does that look like??
4 A My particular one is a piece of soapstone
5 approximately two and a half inches long with a
6 pentagram carved at the bottom of it and with
7 runic writing on the back.
8 Q Do you wear this all the time?
9 A All the time except coming into the visiting
10 room. They don't allow you to wear watches or
11 jewelry up here.
12 Q Is there a specific purpose for wearing the
13 medallion?
14 A Yeah, there is. People consider the medallion a
15 form of protection, something to put your energy
16 into. I know a lot of people that use it as a
17 form of a worry stone, just holding it basically
18 in the palm of their hand and rubbing their thumb
19 across the top of it. It's nervous energy
20 release, in my opinion.
21 Q Do you use prayer oils?
22 A Yes.

1 Q Do you purchase them through the canteen?
2 A Again, I haven't been able to purchase them here.
3 The director of treatment at Gardner purchased
4 all of the prayer oils that we used up there.
5 Q So there's no corporate prayer oils?
6 A No. I've been told here in this facility that
7 they're not approved to be purchased by the DOC
8 for corporate use.
9 Q But if you had the money, you could buy your own
10 prayer oil?
11 A Yes. If I had money, I could buy the oils that
12 they offer now, but the oils that they offer now
13 are -- they're not pure essential oils. They're
14 a diluted essential oil, and I don't know what
15 they've been diluted with or who's diluted them
16 or what condition I'm getting them in, so I'd
17 probably choose to find another method to purify
18 and charge.
19 Q So it would be prayer oils used for what purpose?
20 A Prayer oils are used for dressing of the candle,
21 cleansing the room, purification ceremonies,
22 dedication ceremonies, initiations.

1 Unfortunately, every scent of oil has its own use
2 or uses, and right now, we could get musk,
3 jasmine, frankensence, and rose, I believe, and
4 with the exception of frankensence, the other
5 three are all -- Wiccans would consider them as
6 candidates for love spells or to find a mate type
7 of thing. Frankensence is the only thing that
8 can remotely be considered as a purification oil.

9 Q So what do you do in lieu of the prayer oil?

10 A There's usually salt and water.

11 Q And the candles?

12 A We don't have candles here, but for my necklace,
13 I cleanse and charge it frequently with salt and
14 water.

15 Q Otherwise, you would use the prayer oil to charge
16 your necklace?

17 A Yeah. The prayer oil has -- the soapstone
18 necklace that I have absorbs the oils and, in my
19 opinion, stays charged longer than it does with
20 saltwater.

21 Q Are the prayer oils ever used on your body?

22 A Yeah. We would put a cross on the forehead,

1 usually a pentagram over the heart, the inside of
2 both of the wrists, and both the feet,
3 designating clear thought, clear heart, staying
4 on the path, and doing no harm.

5 Q Now, is this done personally in one's cell or as
6 part of the group?

7 A It can be done either way.

8 Q Do other members of your coven at the Treatment
9 Center use prayer oil?

10 A As far as I know, nobody's purchased the prayer
11 oils.

12 Q You do have access to an altar bowl at your
13 services?

14 A No. If we wanted an altar bowl, we have to bring
15 something from the cell which is a direct
16 violation of MTC policy, this facility's policy.

17 Q There's no bowl available in the storage area?

18 A No. I've requested it, and they haven't
19 purchased it.

20 Q What does the altar bowl look like?

21 A Altar bowls take many shapes and forms. The ones
22 we had in Gardner were made out of like a white

1 onyx. Carved out of stone is the ones we had up
2 there. Ceramics are fine, wood, animal horn.
3 Generally, you want your items on your altar to
4 be natural rather than manmade. I believe now
5 they're now allowing a plastic bowl is what's
6 available here, I believe.

7 Q What about an altar cloth?

8 A Altar cloth, there is one available here. It's
9 approximately probably 16 by 20. It's a rather
10 small altar cloth.

11 Q That's used in your services?

12 A Yes. You place it on the altar and place your
13 tools on top of that, your candles, your bowls,
14 your Book of Shadows, pentagram, that type of
15 thing, chalices.

16 Q Has your Wiccan group ever had an altar bowl to
17 use?

18 A In this facility, no.

19 Q What are runes?

20 A Runes are small pieces of -- well, runes would be
21 the elder. It's an ancient form of writing. I
22 might have it in here somewhere. I don't know

1 off the top of my head. It's carved into
2 generally stone, bone, or some type of natural
3 material, wood. It's used as another form of
4 divination similar to the tarot cards.

5 Q How is it used?

6 A The standard would be to take the circle that
7 goes around the outside of the pentacle on the
8 altar cloth, you take the runes in your hand, and
9 you think of a question, something you want
10 answered, you know, am I going to win the lottery
11 next month, let's say, and you hold the stones in
12 your cupped hands, and putting your energy and
13 your thought into the question, you drop them
14 over the circle.

15 It's said to be that the runes closer
16 to the center of the circle hold more power, and
17 the ones outside the circle, you ignore, so you
18 find what would be the center of the circle and
19 take the stones there, and if you're familiar
20 enough with the runes, you'd know what each rune
21 means. I'm not. I'm going to take a cheat sheet
22 out and look, and you say, okay, well, this one,

1 this is a positive rune. This one here shows new
2 things coming into your future. This one shows
3 happiness, whatever the case may be.

4 You could take those three runes to
5 possibly mean that yes, you could be winning the
6 lottery next month. You don't get definitive
7 yeses or nos with any kind of divination.

8 Q Are the runes used individually or in a group?

9 A It's an individual thing. Any type of divinatory
10 tool that's used by a working practitioner is a
11 personal tool that you're putting your own energy
12 into, and it's generally not passed around.

13 Q So do you have your own set of runes?

14 A No. I don't believe we're allowed to have -- I
15 think we're allowed to have them for corporate
16 use but not personal use.

17 Q Are there corporate runes for your group?

18 A Yes, there is a set of corporate runes.

19 Q With a bag, cloth bag?

20 A Yes. A small cloth bag to keep them in, yes.

21 Q What's the significance of the crow or raven
22 feathers?

1 A I have no idea who ordered those, and I couldn't
2 tell you. I've never seen these before. I can
3 only surmise from practice in the past that
4 they're used in the same manner as a besom, B-E-
5 S-O-M, which is a small broom that we use to
6 cleanse the area, ritual cleansing. That's the
7 only thing I can think of.

8 Q What's the magic circle??

9 A Magic circle is something that's cast during
10 every meeting of Wiccans. It's a protective
11 circle that the severe or blue energy that I
12 mentioned earlier. It's just a circle of
13 protection, severe protection, you cast around
14 the group during any meetings.

15 Q So it's not any physical item?

16 A It's commonly believed in Wiccan or magic
17 ceremony that being able to see something
18 physically helps you to visualize it, so seeing
19 this black circle around the outside of the
20 group, it gives people a focal point, something
21 just to focus on to fix your sphere of blue
22 energy around the entire coven. It's been my

1 experience that as a coven matures, as the
2 practitioners mature, we don't need the physical
3 representation of the circle to be able to
4 visualize the sphere of energy around you.

5 Q Does your group have a physical piece of fabric
6 or whatever that signifies the black circle?

7 A They do have a magic circle that was drawn on a
8 bed sheet with a Magic Marker. Unfortunately,
9 the circle that the sheet will accommodate is
10 too small to accommodate the people that use it,
11 so it's there, but you can't get an entire coven
12 inside to make any kind of magic.

13 Q The significance of a brass bell?

14 A Brass bell is generally used, depending on
15 tradition, to signal the beginning or the end of
16 the Espat working. Once you invoked the god and
17 goddess in the four corners, you ring the bell
18 three times generally to indicate the starting of
19 whatever energy-raising technique you're using.

20 Q Do you have a brass bell at your disposal?

21 A They've got little one-inch tall very tinny-
22 sounding things that they have made available to

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1 us, yes.

2 Q What's a worry stone?

3 A The worry stone is a small pretty much egg-shaped
4 thin piece of stone. It usually has an
5 indentation in the top of it where a person will
6 rub their thumb across it in the same manner as
7 some people do with their necklaces, just a place
8 to put energy or to put your worry or frustration
9 into, so a lot of people keep them in their
10 pockets and will use them, like I said, as a
11 focal point to store your worries and
12 frustrations.

13 Q Now, is that a corporate item?

14 A It's generally personal, but it's been listed by
15 the DOC as a corporate worship item.

16 Q Do you have those worry stones as part of your
17 equipment?

18 A Corporate-issued, yes, there is a bag of them in
19 the footlocker. As far as I know, they've never
20 been used.

21 Q How do the worry stones differ from the runes?

22 A The runes are a divinatory tool. The worry stone

1 is, for want of a better word, a focal point,
2 something to put your worries and frustrations
3 into, something to do with your hands when you're
4 nervous.

5 Q Does your group have a variety of meditation
6 tapes available to them?

7 A There are a variety of tapes, yes.

8 Q Do you know how many tapes there are?

9 A Best estimate, I would say in the neighborhood of
10 a dozen.

11 Q What about the candles? Are the candles only if
12 you have a volunteer; is that how it works?

13 A I believe that's the newest addition to the
14 approved items list, yeah. They haven't ordered
15 any for us because we don't have an outside
16 volunteer, although in Gardner, we didn't have an
17 outside volunteer, and we were able to have
18 candles and lit candles during all of our
19 ceremonies and magic workings.

20 Q A wand, do you have a wand available?

21 A It's been requested, and it's never been
22 answered.

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1 MR. McFARLAND: I'd like this marked as
2 Exhibit 1.

3 (Whereupon the Wicca Handbook was
4 Marked Exhibit No. 1.)

5 Q Do you recognize this document?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Where does it come from?

8 A This comes from the religious service handbook.

9 Q What does the bottom of it say? Would you read
10 the bottom?

11 A Handbook amended February 2005.

12 MR. McFARLAND: This will be Exhibit 2.

13 (Whereupon the Letter dated 4/9/04
14 was Marked Exhibit No. 2.)

15 Q I show you what's been marked as Exhibit 2 for
16 this deposition. Do you recognize this document?

17 A This would be a letter I wrote to the acting
18 director of treatment on April 9, 2004, a request
19 for religious educational tapes, videos, and
20 books.

21 Q Have any of those tapes on that list since come
22 your way and been provided to the Wiccan group?